



# Department of State

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**TELEGRAM**

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INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-10 CIAE-00 EB-08 DODE-00  
I-01 NEA-06 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 PM-09 INRE-00  
ICDA-12 SP-02 /070 R

DRAFTED BY T: POECASTRO  
APPROVED BY T: JLBUCKLEY  
T: RWHERNE  
NEA: JCOON

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E.O. 12065: GDS 7/1/87, (BUCKLEY, JAMES L.)

TAGS: PGOV

SUBJECT: BUCKLEY BRIEFING OF HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE ON PAKISTAN

REF.: STATE 67179<sup>NR</sup>

1. ENTIRE TEXT SECRET

2. SUMMARY. IN A TWO HOUR LONG INFORMAL CLOSED SESSION ON JUNE 24, UNDER SECRETARY BUCKLEY BRIEFED ELEVEN HFAC MEMBERS ON HIS RECENT TALKS WITH PAKISTANI LEADERS. MOST QUESTIONS FOCUSED ON THE NEED FOR F-16'S AND ON THE NUCLEAR ISSUE. MOST MEMBERS APPEARED GENERALLY SUPPORTIVE OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORT TO BUILD A NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH PAKISTAN. END SUMMARY.

3. BUCKLEY OUTLINED THE ADMINISTRATION'S JUSTIFICATION FOR THE PROPOSED ARMS SALES AND ECONOMIC AID PACKAGE TO  
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THE GOP. HE CITED OUR SECURITY CONCERNS IN THE CRITICALLY

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IMPORTANT SOUTHWEST-ASIAN AREA. HE SAID THE PAKISTANIS POSSESS THE NECESSARY SKILLS TO OPERATE SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT, YET THEY ARE LIMITED BY AN ANTIQUATED ARSENAL. WITH THE INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN, THE PAKISTANIS FACE A

SERIOUS SOVIET THREAT. BUCKLEY STRESSED THE PAKISTANI SENSE OF ACUTE VULNERABILITY UNTIL NEW WEAPONS BEGIN TO ARRIVE. THERE IS A CLEAR POLITICAL AND MILITARY NEED TO PROVIDE THE PAKISTANIS WITH ACCELERATED DELIVERIES OF SOME EQUIPMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. BUCKLEY ALSO UNDERSCORED THE PAKISTANIS' DESIRE FOR TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED EQUIPMENT WHICH WOULD PROVIDE DEFENSE CAPABILITY FOR A DECADE OR MORE.

4. SEVERAL HFAC MEMBERS EXHIBITED CONSIDERABLE CONCERN OVER AN ARMS PACKAGE INCLUDING F-16'S. ISSUES MEMBERS RAISED WERE:

- THE REAL NEED FOR F-16'S INSTEAD OF LESS SOPHISTICATED AIRCRAFT SUCH AS F5E'S.
  - HOW INDIA FIGURES IN THE EQUATION, AND WHETHER PAKISTANI DEPLOYMENT OF F-16'S WOULD THREATEN INDIA.
  - IF F-16'S TO PAKISTAN ARE WORTH A DRAWDOWN IN SCARCE U.S. INVENTORIES.
  - THE STABILITY OF ZIA'S GOVERNMENT.
  - THAT PAKISTANIS UNDERSTAND THAT A 5-YEAR PACKAGE IS SUBJECT TO ANNUAL CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW.
  - THE PAKISTANI COMMITMENT TO NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION.
- ON THIS POINT, BUCKLEY EMPHASIZED THE ADMINISTRATION'S COMMITMENT TO NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION, AND DESCRIBED HIS EXCHANGES WITH THE PAKISTANIS ON THEIR NUCLEAR INTENTIONS. HE REFERRED TO ZIA'S ASSURANCE THAT PAKISTAN
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DID NOT INTEND TO MAKE NUCLEAR WEAPONS. BUCKLEY ALSO MADE CLEAR THAT HE HAD NOTED TO ZIA THAT THE US MAKES NO DISTINCTION BETWEEN SO-CALLED PNES AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT.

5. NONE OF THE MEMBERS EXPLICITLY OPPOSED A CHANGE IN THE SYMINGTON PROVISIONS, BUT THEY MAY WISH TO EVOLVE THEIR OWN LANGUAGE RATHER THAN PICK UP ON THE SENATE AMENDMENT. THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE SKEPTICISM ON F-16'S, BUT LITTLE APPARENT OPPOSITION AT THIS STAGE TO THE

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